

NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

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2 KC MEN INDICTED FOR CRACK COCAINE, FIREARM

KANSAS CITY, Mo. – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that two Kansas City, Mo., men were indicted by a federal grand jury today, in separate cases, for possessing with intent to distribute crack cocaine and illegally possessing a firearm.

* **Timothy J. Burtin**, 29, of Kansas City, was charged in a two-count indictment returned by a federal grand jury in Kansas City.

Count One of the federal indictment alleges that **Burtin** aided and abetted others in the possession with intent to distribute 50 grams or more of crack cocaine on May 18, 2005.

Count Two of the federal indictment alleges that **Burtin** illegally possessed a firearm while he possessed with intent to distribute crack cocaine. Under federal statutes, Graves explained, it is illegal to possess a firearm during and in relation to a drug trafficking crime. The indictment alleges that **Burtin** was in possession of a KBI .380-caliber handgun on May 18, 2005.

* **Howard T. Neely**, 23, of Kansas City, was charged in a two-count indictment returned by a federal grand jury in Kansas City.

Count One of the federal indictment alleges that **Neely** aided and abetted others in the possession with intent to distribute 50 grams or more of crack cocaine on May 18, 2005.

Count Two of the federal indictment alleges that **Neely** illegally possessed a firearm while he possessed with intent to distribute crack cocaine. Under federal statutes, Graves explained, it is illegal to possess a firearm during and in relation to a drug trafficking crime. The indictment alleges that **Neely** was in possession of an Interarms 9 mm semi-automatic handgun on May 18, 2005.

These cases are being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Michael S. Oliver. They were investigated by the Kansas City, Mo., Police Department.

Graves cautioned that the charges contained in these indictments are simply accusations, and not evidence of guilt. Evidence supporting the charges must be presented to a federal trial jury, whose duty is to determine guilt or innocence.

This news release, as well as additional information about the office of the United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, is available on-line at www.usdoj.gov/usao/mow